



4/26/05

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 225 (Brown)

SB 225 would establish the "Agricultural Tourism Zoning Advisory Commission" and require it to report to the Governor and the Legislature on issues concerning agricultural tourism.

4/21:

- *Committee 1 (S-1) was defeated.*
- *Van Woerkom 2 (S-2) was adopted.*
- *SB 225 was moved to 3rd Reading.*

4/26:

- SB 225 passed [RC 88: 37 yes, 0 no].

THIRD READING

SB 167 (McManus)

SB 167 would allow licensees in regulated occupations to meet up to half of their continuing education requirements through online or other electronic media sources approved by the regulating agency.

- *Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted. The committee sub offered in that the Department can support that recognizes that some continuing education programs which are set forth in administrative rules may not be able to be changed to comply with the law.*
- *SB 167 was moved to 3rd Reading.*

SB 257 (Hammerstrom)

SB 257 would extend through the years 2005 and 2006 the authority of the Liquor Control Commission (LCC) to issue additional resort licenses, resort economic development licenses, and specially designated distributor (SDD) licenses in resort areas. (Resort licenses allow the sale of alcoholic liquor for on-premises consumption. An SDD is a person engaged in an established business licensed by the LCC to distribute packaged liquor for off-premises consumption.)

Support: Liquor Control Commission, Michigan Restaurant Association, Associated Food Dealers, Michigan Grocers Association.

Oppose: Michigan Licensed Beverage Association.

- SB 257 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

SB 332 (Birkholz)

SB 332 would help reduce the threat of new aquatic nuisance species by requiring vessel operators to obtain a permit and treat their ballast water before discharging it. Even if a vessel operator claims that there is no ballast water on board the ship, residual sludge left from previous discharges can contain organisms that find their way into the State's waters. Though the bill would require the operator of an oceangoing vessel that discharged ballast water to use an environmentally sound technology or method to prevent the discharge of ANS, it would allow operators to determine which technology or method they would use. The negative impact of aquatic nuisance species on the health and economy of the Great Lakes is considered by many experts to be the most serious threat to the quality of the Great Lakes ecosystem.

The bill would establish a new permit program for oceangoing vessels engaging in port operations to be administered by the Department. An individual permit would require an application fee of \$750 and an annual fee of \$8,700. A general permit to discharge would require an application fee of \$75 and an annual fee of \$150. Actual revenue collection would depend on the number of vessels, the level of compliance, and enforcement actions required.

Support: DEQ, NWF, MUCC, MEC, Chamber, MTA, MML, MAC.

- Committee 1 (S-4) was adopted.
- SB 332 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 371 (Sanborn)

SB 371 would expand the Tool and Die Renaissance Zones to include industrial pattern makers. Industrial pattern makers function in a manner very similar to tool and die makers, but generally use wood rather than metal to make their patterns. Pattern makers generally deal with “smaller run” items than tool and die makers. The bill could impact 70 companies in Michigan.

- SB 371 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

HB 4570 (Ward)

Current law requires that millage authorized on or before May 31 is subject to a reduction in the same year unless overridden by the voters. HB 4570 changes that date to April 30 to coincide with the new May election date for school districts as a result of the election consolidation bills enacted last year. Essentially, this will allow Headlee overrides to be approved by electors at the May election. Prior to consolidation, the override votes were often held at the June school election.

Support: Treasury, School Management groups, MEA, MFT.

- HB 4570 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.